

# Shelton State Courier

Issue 91

New Series Vol. 6, Number 17

Shelton State Community College Nov. 21, 2002 — Dec. 4, 2002

## Inside The Courier

**Herdman gets bugged**  
pg. 2



**Cheerleaders fill the atrium,**  
pg. 3



## Future Issues

This is the 17th *Courier* of the year. We will publish one more issue this year. Let us know what you would like to know about Shelton by calling the publisher at 391-2278 or the *Courier* editorial office at 391-2406.

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Michelle Khalilian smiles as Shelton President Rick Rogers presents her with flowers while being crowned Shelton's 2002 Homecoming Queen on Nov. 16.

## Homecoming peaks with queen crowning

Shelton State celebrated homecoming on Nov. 16. The day was filled with festivities and former and current students, faculty and staff enjoyed returning to the school to pay respects to their alma mater.

A reception was held in the atrium to honor all former students.

Retired Shelton psychology instructor Randy Jarrell and George Lake, first president of the Shelton State Ambassadors, were guest speakers for the event.

The Shelton State cheerleaders got the crowd fired up with a Buccaneer pep rally before the 2002 Alabama Junior and Community College Basketball Champion Lady Bucs took the court followed by Buccaneer Basketball.

During halftime, Michelle Khalilian was crowned Shelton's 2002 Homecoming Queen. The homecoming court was Candace Morris, Shanna Martin, Jennifer Taylor and Rebekah Gentry.

## You can't be idle if you want to be an Idol

By Jennifer Huggins

Very few people grow up to become what they wanted to be as a child. Not many boys become rock stars or professional baseball players. Rarely do little girls grow up to be prima ballerinas or acclaimed movie stars. How do people even get the chance to become celebrities and work in the entertainment business? One word: luck.

Most people in the entertainment industry got there by being in the right place at the right time. Recently producers from Fox television got together and decided to bring a show, *Pop Idol*, from England to America which would give everyone around the country, including me, a chance at stardom. Renamed, *American Idol*,

**Idol cont'd on pg. 5**

## Bucs bring home big win for homecoming

By Robert Milz

Shelton State's men's and women's basketball teams won big Nov. 16. Homecoming went off without a hitch.

The men's team won 83-73 against the Meridian Eagles. The men's record is now 3-0. The women's team had an amazing victory of 105-87 against Meridian.

The first half of the men's game seemed to be a struggle for the Bucs. Coach Mohun wasn't pleased with the first half. The Eagles' center made it hard on Shelton. At the buzzer before the half, Kareem Ward made a miraculous slam-dunk. All people in the stands were on their feet and cheering. This fired up the team for the second half. "We played a lot

**Bucs cont'd on pg. 4**



Sophomore Franklin Moore grabs a rebound during the homecoming game on Nov. 16.



Coach Madonna Thompson gives tips to the Lady Bucs during a timeout.

## Lady Bucs home-in

By Kim West

a 105-87 homecoming win over the Meridian Lady Eagles.

There's no place like home for the Shelton State women's basketball team.

After opening the season with four close losses on the road, the Lady Buccaneers returned to the Umphrey Center on Nov. 16, and soared to

"We never lose at home, you know," said Shelton State point guard Jennifer West with a grin.

The win had everyone smiling as the Lady Bucs not only

**Lady Bucs cont'd on pg. 4**



## Gouge O'Life *A Coffee Mugging*

By Ben Herdman

Something was definitely wrong, but I couldn't pinpoint the source of the problem. I remember being in my eight o'clock class, trying to read the text along with the lesson, but I couldn't concentrate.

The words just scattered around the page like a confused colony of ants. I had the same trouble with the morning newspaper. How do you turn dyslexic overnight?

But it wasn't just the complications of reading. I had been seeing abnormal things. It seemed that the room and its contents were breathing in unison with me, and my professor's face morphed as if his head were a balloon filled with jelly.

Things got a little stranger as the morning progressed. By the time I got home the kitchen was spinning. Maybe I was spinning; I don't remember. The conditions were getting worse. I settled down with the pot of

coffee that I had made that morning. I tried watching some television, but nothing registered. I couldn't do anything.

Then a friend of mine who had been staying at my place for a few days walked in. "Hey, man, what's going on?" he said. "You look pale. Are you all right?"

I shrugged. "I don't think so. I'm way out of sorts. The whole day's been weird, and I can't figure it out. All of a sudden I have dyslexia. I can't think straight, and I've had some mild hallucinations."

He looked at my cup of coffee and said, "Hey, how's that coffee? Taste okay?"

"I suppose. Maybe the flavor is off a bit off, but, then again, everything has been screwed up today. Would you



Illustration by Abbot

like a cup?"

He cringed and shook his head. "No way. I'll definitely pass on that. I'd been seeing ants crawling around Mr. Coffee for the last week, so I sprayed it with pesticide before I left for work this morning. Yeah, man, just one cup of that stuff would probably fry my brain."

## Off the Shelf . . .

By Glen Johnson

### New works available in the Brooks-Cork Library

#### On the Best-Seller Shelf...

Although *The Little Friend* is only Donna Tarr's second novel, it has been anxiously anticipated following the hit created by her debut with *The Secret History* 10 years ago.

In this one, we're back in a small Mississippi town with Harriet, a precocious 12-year-old, who has had to live all her life in the shadow of her older brother just because he was found hanging from a tree in their front yard.

Brother's killer has never been identified. Until now that Harriet is taking up the case.

Orchid Beach. Such a pretty name. Such peaceful connotations. But who could guess that almost from the beginning of Stuart Wood's *Blood Orchid* there are dead bodies flailing about and floating in on the tide, and just plain lying around under foot

than you could shake a riot stick at.

It's almost more than Police Chief Holly Barker can stand, especially when it's coupled with the recent loss of her fiancé, Jackson Oxenhandler. Luckily she's got the help of Daisy, her faithful Doberman and her dad, Ham.

*Blue Shoe* by Anne Lamott (author of *Traveling Mercies*) follows the roller coaster of Mattie Ryder's life at the moment: her marriage has dissolved, her mother is sinking fast, and her house is falling apart. Likewise her career as a model is about to be history as her waist expands out of size 2.

But when she comes upon some childhood trinkets left in her deceased father's car, Mattie and her brother start patching together the clues of their mixed upbringing in hopes of understanding how they both got from there to here.

## "Keep Looking Up!"

By Dr. Lee Albritton



### Visit a Star Nursery

One of winter's largest and most familiar constellations — Orion, the mighty hunter — is back in the night sky a couple of hours after sunset. To find Orion, simply look east for his three bright belt stars that will form a straight line perpendicular to the horizon. Orion is literally lying on the horizon with his head and shoulder north of his belt stars and his legs and feet south.

Orion has a sword made of three points of light in a straight line hanging downward from the middle star of his belt. The middle point of light

in his sword is not a star, but a large cloud of gas that primarily is made of the element hydrogen. A cloud of gas is referred to as a nebula and is the birth place of stars!

The nebula in Orion's sword is called the "Great Nebula" and is truly one of the most remarkable sights in the sky with a good pair of binoculars or a small telescope. In the center of this gas cloud are four stars very close together that have just turned on that are called the Trapezium.

Gravity is the dominant force in the birth of a star. It

slowly pulls the hydrogen gas tightly together, until the very inside of the forming star gets very hot. At these very high temperatures, the nuclei of the hydrogen atoms start to fuse. The tremendous amounts of energy given off that make the young star shine. This nuclear reaction is the same as the one that occurs in the hydrogen bomb.

Keep looking up, find the "Great Nebula" in Orion's sword, and take a look with binoculars at stars that have just been born in this incredible solar nursery!

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### Shelton State Courier

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The *Shelton State Courier* is a "campus newspaper" written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submis-

sions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working with the students in the production of this paper:

"The college seeks to provide an atmosphere conducive to open and honest intellectual inquiry in any college forum which is appropriate for dialogue and student participation. The students should feel free to exercise the right to dissent within limits of decorum and good taste."

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The *Courier* is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.



# Shelton celebrates homecoming with hoops and hoopla



Shelton student Jennifer Huggins sings the National Anthem before the homecoming game.



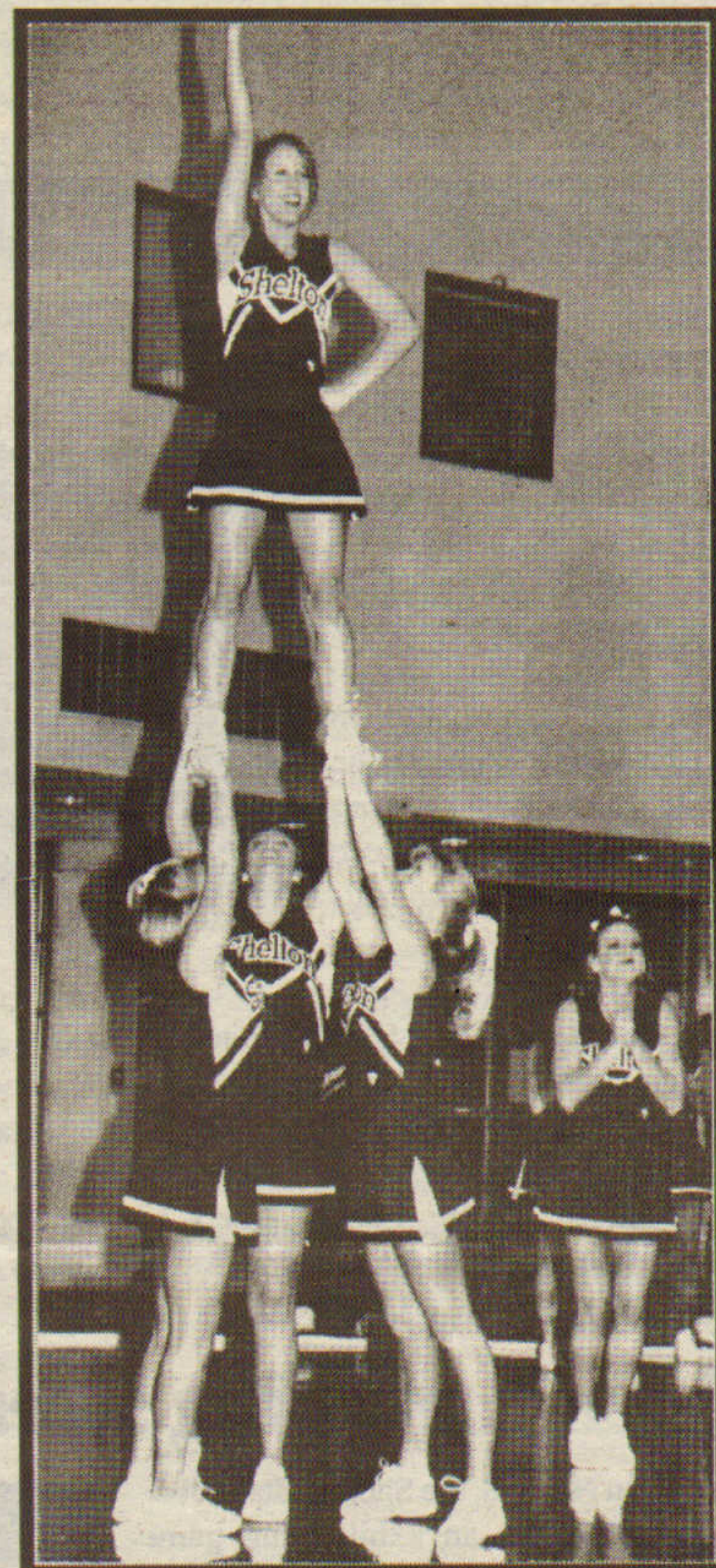
The Shelton State 2002 Homecoming Court is: (L-R) Candace Morris, Jennifer Taylor, Michelle Khalilian, Shanna Martin and Rebekah Gentry.



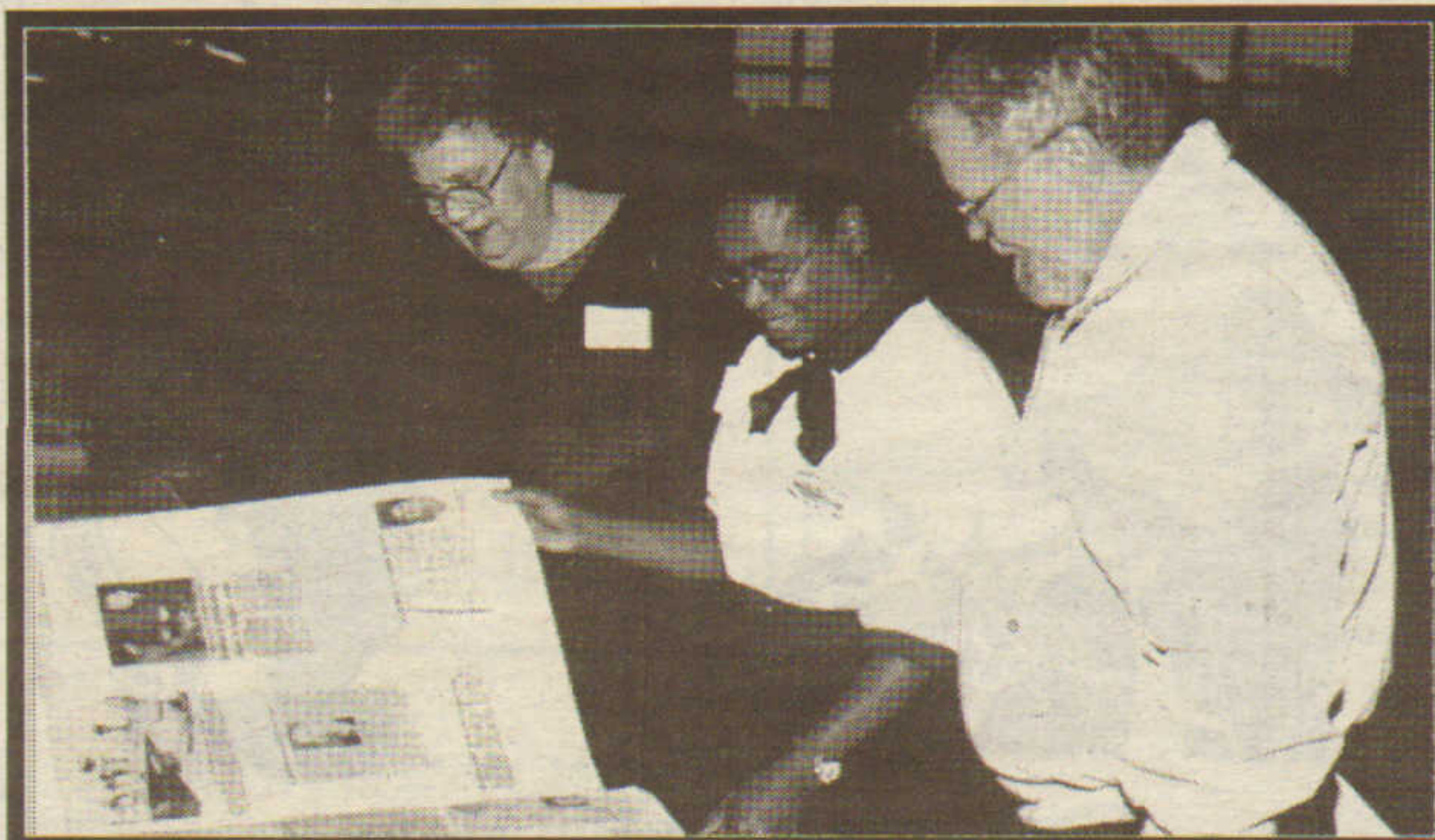
Left — Billie Boteler, a retired faculty member, and Maudine Franks catch up on old times during a reception held for former students and employees. Boteler's husband, Hawell Franks, is a retired Shelton instructor. Boteler's late husband, Wayne Boteler, was formerly the Dean of Students at Shelton.



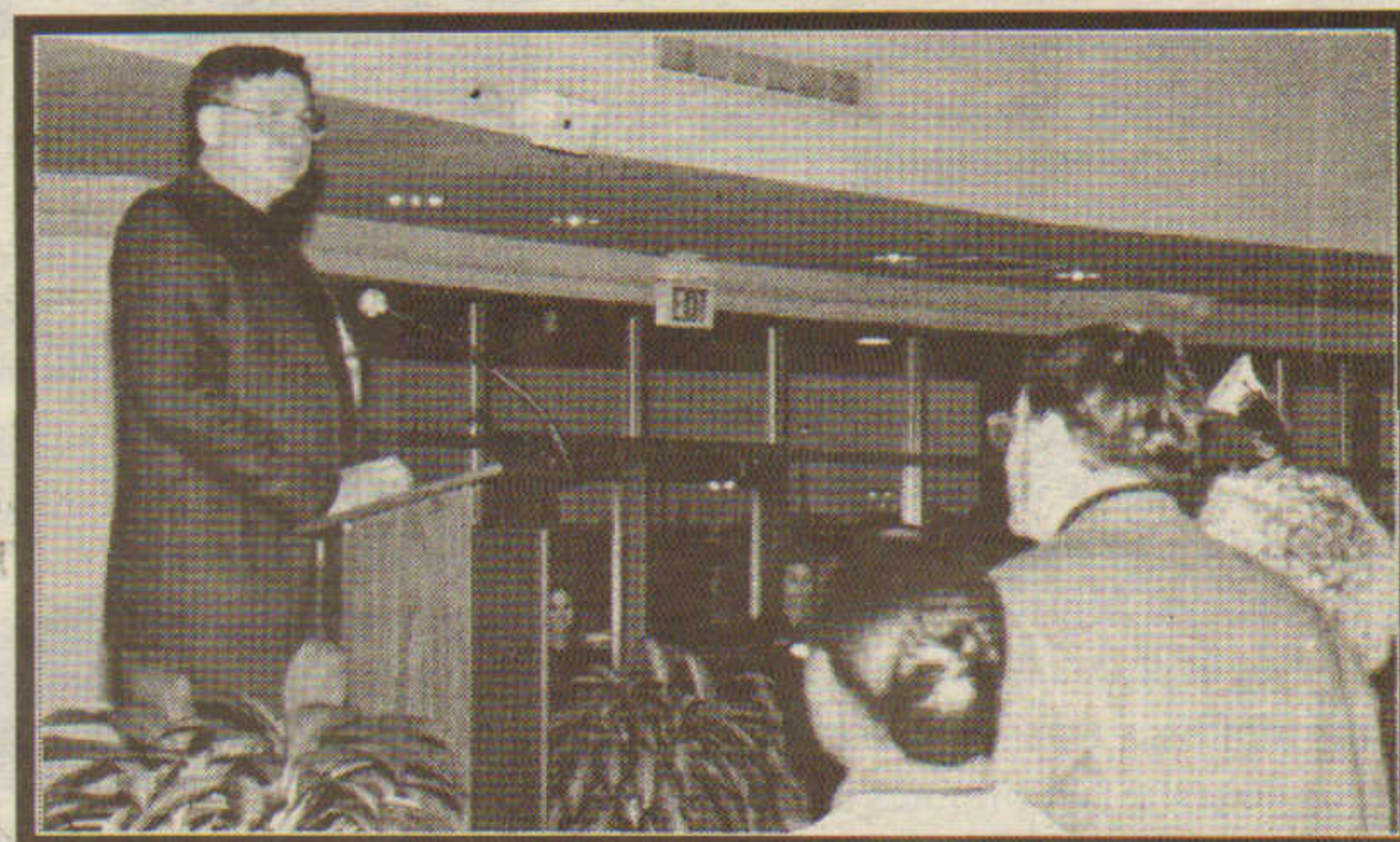
George Lake, the first president of Shelton Ambassadors, started in 1988, speaks to alumni.



Shelton State cheerleaders get fans fired up with a pep rally before the homecoming game.



Left — Former students Betty O'Dell (L), Charles O'Dell (R) and Jean Epps, part of the support staff in Shelton's library, look at a scrapbook of clippings of Shelton history from several newspapers. Right — Randy Jarrell, retired Shelton psychology instructor, speaks to alumni.



Left — Michelle Khalilian is escorted by her father, John Abby Khalilian, during homecoming ceremony during halftime of the Bucs basketball game. Khalilian was crowned Shelton's 2002 Homecoming Queen.



Left — Shelton staff and students following the homecoming game are (L-R) Robert Milz and Dr. Jim Kenny, announcers; Teresa Herring, shot-clock operator and Paul Brown, timekeeper.





# Sports

—The Buccaneers are Here to Play—



## Lady Bucs cont'd from pg. 1

snapped its losing streak but also kept another one alive. Shelton State hasn't lost at home since the 2000-01 season.

Shelton State opened up the scoring with a West steal and fittingly ended the half with two blocks from center Tasha Harris, which led to a Marquitta Hillman layup as time expired. The Lady Bucs used pressure defense break open a close game and take a 56-46 half-time lead.

In the first five minutes of the second half, Shelton State kept up its frenetic pace and outscored Meridian 15-9 to jump out to a 71-55 lead.

Fellow freshman Emily Nalls and sophomore Ashlee Porter added 17 apiece. Leanne Willimams came off the

bench to help spark Shelton State's defensive effort with nine steals and nine points. As a team, the Lady Bucs came up with 22 steals.

Meridian guard Monique Horner had a game-high 24 points, while four other Lady Eagles finished with double-figures in scoring.

On Nov. 21, the Lady Bucs will be playing for their first road win when they play Pearl River Community College, one of the top teams in the South.

"As far as I know right

now, Pearl River is the best basketball team we're going to play all year," Shelton State coach Madonna Thompson said. "We will have to play a near-perfect basketball game to even have the opportunity to win the game."



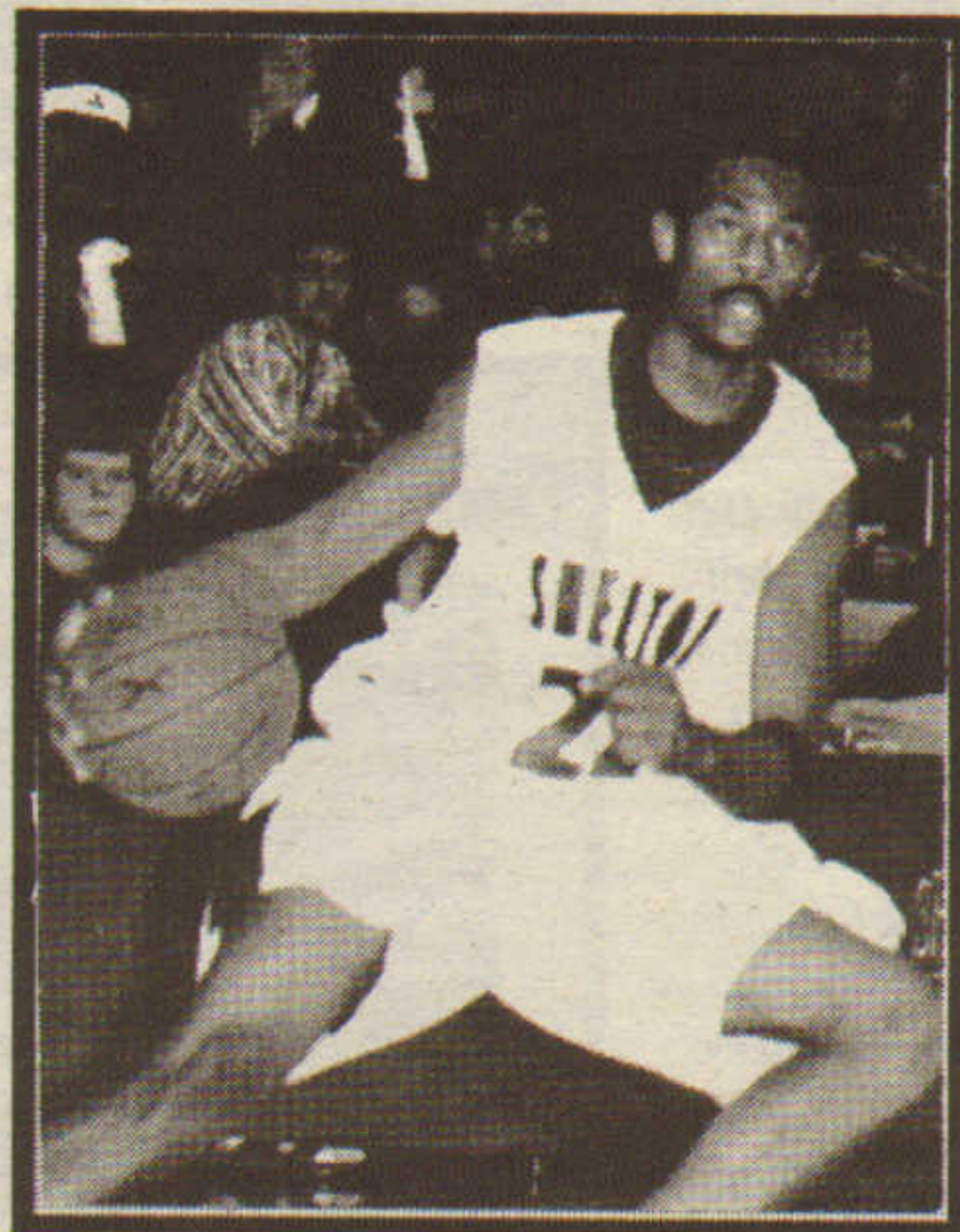
Coach Madonna Thompson

## Men's winning streak continues

On Nov. 18, the Shelton State Buccaneers played an exhilarating game against the East Central Warriors, with a final winning score of 92-85. The Bucs' record is now 4-0. The first half was slow-moving. Both teams traded the lead throughout the whole thing. The Bucs ended the half behind.

The second half started quickly, both teams fought hard to get ahead. Shelton started bringing back the lead but at the last minute the Warriors caught up to put the game in overtime. The Bucs gained an advantage because of the Warriors constant fouling. The Bucs gained nearly eight points from free throws. The Bucs' defense was in full-effort mode throughout the last minutes of the game.

The Bucs will travel to Pensacola, Fla., to compete in a tournament Nov. 28-30.



Sophomore Tim Lewis makes his way around a defender.

## Bucs cont'd from pg. 1

better in the second half," said coach Mohun.

The Eagles seemed to tire during the second. They took out their monstrous center, due to fouls. Also they had fewer players than the Bucs.

Coach Mohun said, "I hope to keep improving game by game, I want us to play more as a team."

## Lady Buccaneers down East Central 60-51

By Kim West

The Shelton State women's basketball team extended its winning streak at home, defeating East Central Community College 60-51 on Nov. 18.

Both teams struggled in the first half to find any offensive rhythm, thanks to poor shooting and numerous turnovers. Tied at 12-12, the Lady Bucs reeled off a 13-4 run to lead East Central 25-16. But the Lady Bucs dug in and built an 11-point lead. The Lady Warriors never got closer than within five points.

"Everybody stepped out and played much better (in the second half)," Jennifer West said. "We're getting better with

every game."

Freshman Laura Rombokas scored a team-high 16 points and grabbed seven rebounds to lead Shelton State.

"I was very impressed with Laura Rombokas," Thompson said. "No. 14 (six-foot guard Kimyatta Viverette) is a very talented player, and Laura kept her a non-factor in the game."

She continued, "I've been trying to find that one player to guard the other team's superstar and I think I've found her."

Nicole Thomas pulled down 11 rebounds and added six points, while fellow sophomore Marquitta Hillman had 11 points, nine rebounds and four steals.

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**Idol cont'd from pg. 1**

the show would allow contestants to rely less on luck and more on their talent. Each contestant needed simply to show up at the audition with their vocal chords.

During the audition process the top 120 singers were singled out and then sent to L.A. to audition in front of three very important judges. Record producer from England and creator of *Pop Idol*, Simon Cowell, is one of the three judges and the kind of person you love to hate. Cowell tells it like it is. He doesn't hold anything back when critiquing the contestants. Simon is my favorite judge. As a contestant I would much rather be told the truth than have it sugar-coated.

His rudeness and sarcasm add much color to the show. Melanie McDaniel, a fan of the show, says, "I love his absolute honesty with the contestants. He tells the truth no matter how bitter." After auditioning, one of the singers told the judges he wanted them to remake him. Simon, holding up his pen, replied, "This is a pen not a magic wand." Record producer, Randy Jackson and hip-hop singer/dancer, Paula Abdul are the other two judges.

Cowell, Jackson, and Abdul chose 30 finalists of the 120 in L.A. to actually be on the show. The 30 finalists battled each other on television and were narrowed down

to the top ten by call-in votes from American viewers. The top 10 were weeded out weekly by nationwide votes until one was left, the American Idol.

I watched the show every Tuesday and Wednesday night and got extremely caught up in the contestants and their lives. I was a huge fan of *Star Search* so this type of show really grabs my attention. I love all types of talent searches because they give people, who wouldn't have had a chance otherwise, a chance to show their stuff. Personally I enjoyed every aspect of the show from the

corny hosts to the genres of the songs which changed from week to week. I voted every Tuesday night for my favorite singer, sometimes calling the busy vote line over and over again to get an answer. This obsession for the show led me to begin

researching on the possibility of auditioning for the sequel to the show, *American Idol 2*. But for now let's keep our focus on *American Idol* number one, and see how it ended.

Kelly Clarkson, an ex-waitress from small-town Burleson, Texas, was signed up for the competition by her friends and became the American Idol on Sept. 4. The moment I heard her sing "R-E-S-P-E-C-T" I was hooked. She has this enormous voice that just captivates an audience. She has the total package of charisma and a voice that blows the roof off of every theater she sang in.

Clarkson acquired 58 percent of the more than 100 million votes to beat the first runner-up, Justin Guarini. She received a \$1 million contract with RCA Records and more fame than she could have ever imagined. Celebrities she once

admired were now becoming her fans. Stars such as, Tori Spelling, Ray Romano, Deborah Messing, and Natalie Cole filled the Kodak Theater on the night of Sept. 4 to root Clarkson on.

The day after Clarkson's win her debut song, "A Moment Like This," had become No. 1 on radio stations across the country. Clarkson has recently put out her first video and her debut CD is set for a Nov. 26 release. She has become one of the most-talked-about female singers in pop music. Move over, Britney Spears!

After luck had failed her numerous times, Clarkson finally became the singer she imagined being as a little girl. Her dream had come true. What allowed this self-described "overalls and jeans" girl to achieve star status and become a million dollar recording artist? She was simply given a chance along with many other hopefuls to show that she had what it takes to become a star. Now I want a chance! Producers are now in the process of creating *American Idol 2* which will allow many others the chance to do as Kelly did and live out their childhood dreams.

Auditions are being held all over the country with an estimated 15,000 contestants to audition. On Oct. 29 I became one of the auditioned. My audition adventure will be in the next article. Do I make it and go on to superstardom? Keep reading...



Jennifer Huggins attended an American Idol concert with former Shelton Singer Melanie McDaniel.

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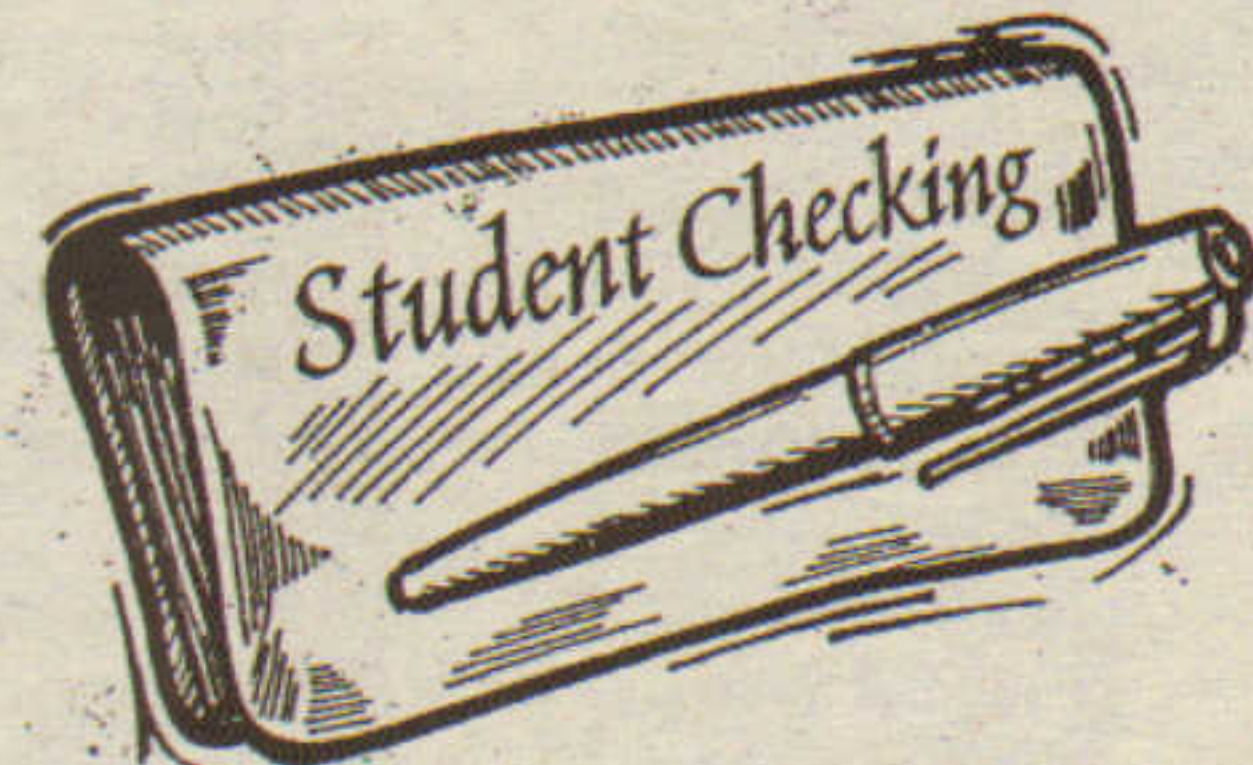
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# Maxwell's Crossing seeks last-minute submissions

By Kandice Williams

The *Courier* staff would like to invite all of Shelton State's creative students and staff to participate in the third annual issue of *Maxwell's Crossing*.

*Maxwell's Crossing* is the creative edition to the *Courier*, the college's bi-monthly student-staffed newspaper. The idea is to give Shelton students, especially, a chance to share creative work, but the opportunity may be missed by many.

The issue comes out in December, and the staff would still like to see more work come in. "We are excited by the material we already have on hand. We could make a great issue from it. But we want the best of the best that the students have to offer. We want the selection to be so competitive," said Sparrow Estes, the *Courier* editor who will also serve as editor of *Crossing*. The deadline to have your work considered is Friday, Nov. 29 at 4 p.m.

"Being a writer myself, and a reader of the *Courier*, I have enjoyed the past two issues of *Maxwell's Crossing*," said Demario Kelly. "Lyrics are my thing.

That's the way I express myself," said Kelly who says he has a piece on his brother's gospel rap CD.

Another student of Shelton, Kimberly Nalls said, "Because of the poems and short stories I read in last year's *Maxwell's Crossing*, I have been inspired to start writing myself." Nalls hasn't written anything she is ready to see in print, but she remains hopeful.

What about those students who haven't ever read an issue of *Maxwell's Crossing*?

Gary Houze has never picked up an issue of the *Courier*, he says. And he has never even heard of the *Maxwell's Crossing* edition. "I didn't know the *Courier* did anything like that," Houze said. "I'm not a writer, but I think that I am creative. I may even write a story for the *Crossing*. Who knows? But I know I will read it," said Houze.

Shelton's poets, writers, and artists of all kinds, are welcome to submit their original work to the *Courier* office in Room 2319.

"Don't miss out on the chance to see your work published," said publisher Dr. Jim Kenny.

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## Men's Basketball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Nov. 28-30	Pensacola Tournament	Pensacola, Fla.	TBA
Dec. 5	Northwest Shoals	Shelton State	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 29-30	Daytona Beach Tournament	Daytona Beach, Fla.	TBA
Jan. 6	Snead State	Boaz	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 9	Bishop State CC	Shelton State	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 11	Southern Union	Wadley	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 13	Wallace-Hanceville	Hanceville	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 16	Marion Military Institute	Marion	7 p.m.
Jan. 23	Enterprise Junior College	Enterprise	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 25	Bevill-Fayette	Fayette	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 27	Bevill-Walker	Shelton State	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 30	Faulkner State CC	Shelton State	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 1	Northwest Shoals CC	Muscle Shoals	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	Lawson State CC	Shelton State	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 6	Wallace-Selma	Shelton State	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 8	Meridian	Meridian, Miss.	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 10	Southern Union	Shelton State	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 13	Wallace-Hanceville	Shelton State	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 15	Gadsden State CC	Shelton State	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 20	Bevill-Walker	Shelton State	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 22	Bevill-Fayette	Shelton State	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 24	Lawson State CC	Birmingham	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 27	Jeff Davis	Brewton	7 p.m.
March 6-8	State Tournament	Faulkner State CC	TBA

Head Coach: Barry Mohun

Assistant Coach: Tim Law

Managers: Justin Berry and Jason Bowen

## Lady Bucs Basketball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Dec. 5	Northwest Shoals	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Dec. 7	Lurleen B. Wallace	Andalusia	4 p.m.
Dec. 14	Delgado CC	New Orleans, La.	2 p.m.
Jan. 6	Snead State	Boaz	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 9	Bishop State	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 11	Southern Union	Wadley	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 13	Wallace-Hanceville	Hanceville	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 16	Lurleen B. Wallace	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 20	Snead State	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 23	Enterprise	Enterprise	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 25	Bevill-Fayette	Fayette	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 27	Alabama Southern	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 30	Faulkner State	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 1	Northwest Shoals	Muscle Shoals	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	Lawson State	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 6	Wallace-Selma	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 8	Meridian	Meridian, Miss.	6 p.m.
Feb. 10	Southern Union	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 13	Wallace-Hanceville	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 15	Gadsden State	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 20	Alabama Southern	Monroeville	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 22	Bevill-Fayette	Shelton State	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 24	Lawson State	Birmingham	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 28	State Tournament	Faulkner State CC	TBA

Head Coach: Madonna Thompson

Assistant Coach: Chris Samford

Managers: Bradley Davis, Tiffany Davis and Kelly Kimsey



## The Best Christmas Pageant Ever on stage at Bean-Brown

Grab the kids, load up the grandparents and make your way to Theatre Tuscaloosa's holiday production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. The delightful comedy is a "must-see" for the entire family during the holiday season. Performances begin Dec. 5 and continue through Dec. 15 at the Bean-Brown Theatre.

Called "An American classic" and "One of the best Christmas stories ever and certainly one of the funniest," Barbara Robinson's beloved story brings us into the world of Beth and Charlie Bradley, who never really liked being in the annual Christmas pageant but this year they like it even less.

Their mom has to direct it, and, to make matters worse, the six Herdman kids — each one as big a bully as the next — have taken over the lead roles. Everyone knows this will be the worst pageant ever.

But something happens that no one can really explain, and the whole town shares in a truly wonderful Christ-

mas gift.

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is directed by Michael Carr with musical direction by Howell Poole, scenic design by Roy Hudson, costume design by Jeanette Robertson and lighting design by Charlie Dennis.

Production sponsorship is provided by Jamison Money Farmer and Company.

Opening night for the production is Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. Additional performances are scheduled Dec. 6 and Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. Performances continue Dec. 11 at 2 p.m., Dec. 13 and Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 15 at 2 p.m.

Tickets for *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* are \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors, students and children.

Tickets may be purchased at the Theatre Tuscaloosa box office at the Bean-Brown Theatre or over the phone by calling 391-2277.

Discounts are available for groups of 15 or more.

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### Honors process begins in January

Students applying for college honors will be able to apply in January. The deadline for applying will be March 1. The Honors Day ceremony will be held May 4 on the Martin campus.

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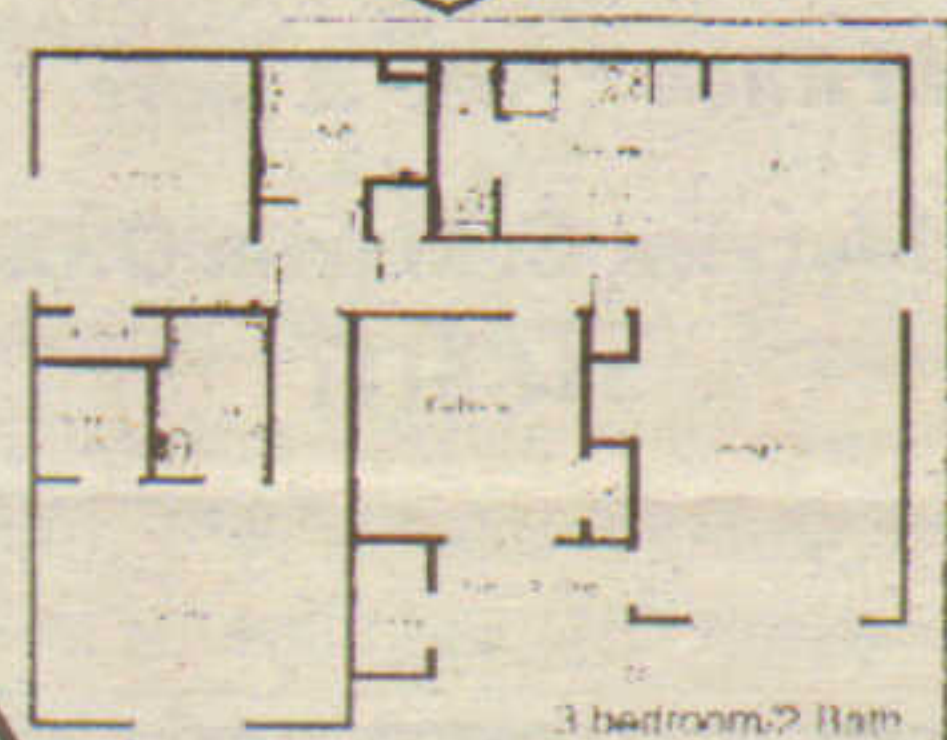
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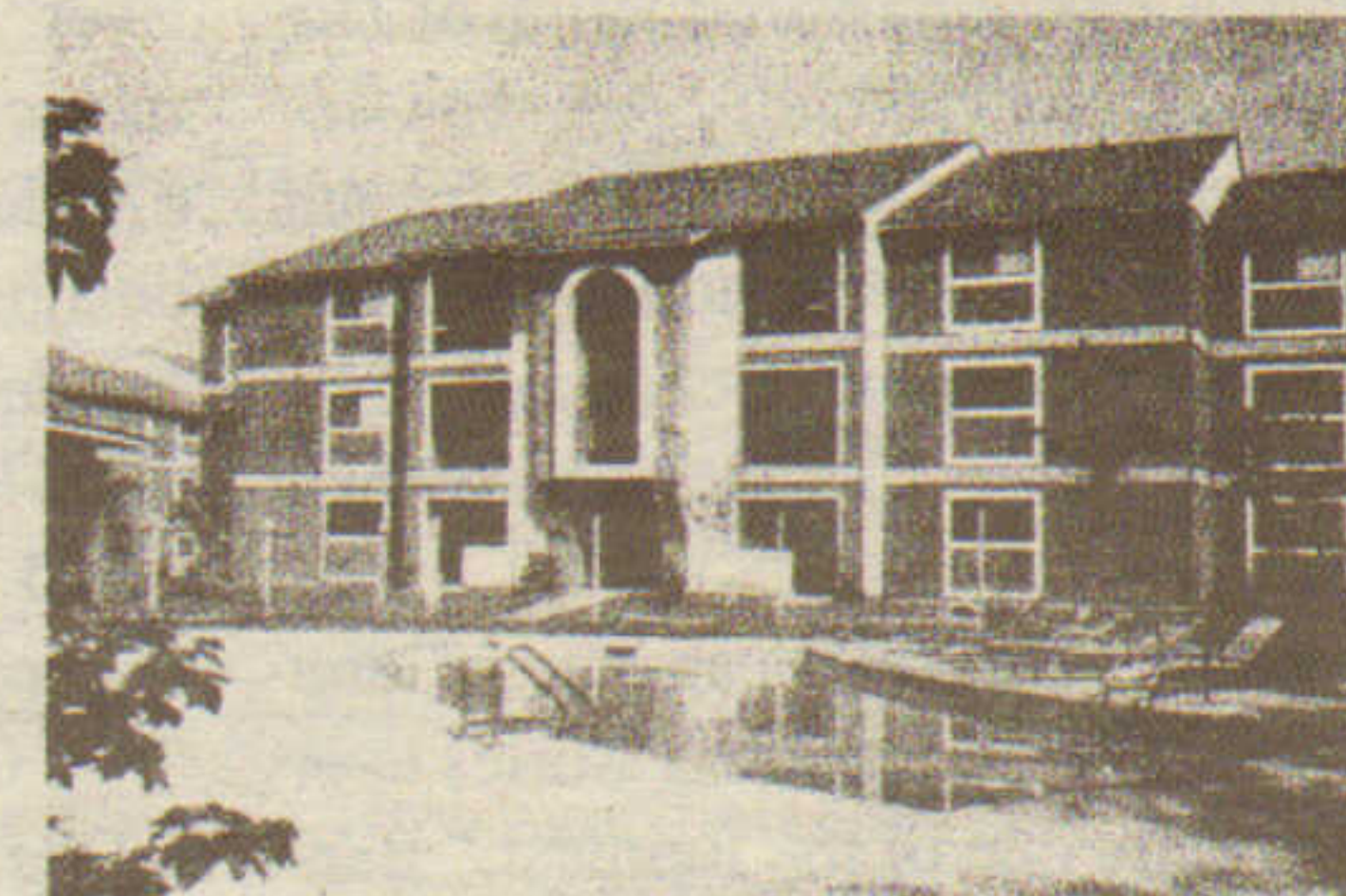
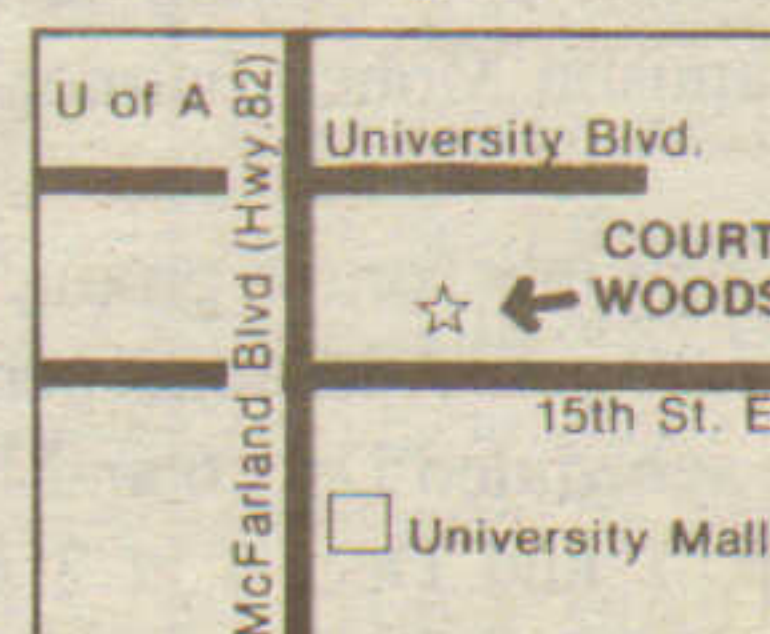
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